

LLANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

---

Town Hall,

Llandrindod Wells.

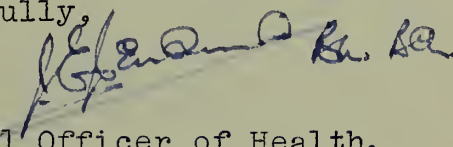
29th November, 1952.

To The Chairman and Members.

I have pleasure in submitting for your consideration the report on the Sanitary Conditions and Vital Statistics of the Urban District for the year 1951.

This report is prepared in accordance with the instructions issued by the Ministry of Health Circular 42/51 and presents briefly the scope of the activities of the Health Department.

Yours faithfully,

  
Medical Officer of Health.



LLANDRINDOD WELLS URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR  
THE YEAR 1951.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

Area of District	... 1509 acres.
Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population Mid. 1951.	... 3360 persons
No. of Inhabited houses at the end of the year (including flats)	... 1022 (an addition of 9 in twelve months)
Rateable Value - 31st December, 1951	-- £25240
Product of Penny Rate	-- £100.12. 9

NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

The natural conditions of the town with its position on the side of a hill standing at a height of 700 feet above sea level has previously been reported upon and it is as well to again stress the healthy situation of the town together with its ideal climatological conditions and purity of air which can be truthfully said to be free from any type of contamination and of a healing and bracing nature. The climatological conditions of 1951 were as follows:-

Total Rainfall ...	...	...	...	...	43.77 inches
Total Sunshine ...	...	...	...	...	1304.9 hours
Highest Maximum Temperature	...	...	...	...	79° F
Average Maximum Temperature	...	...	...	...	54° F
Lowest Minimum Temperature	...	...	...	...	17° F
Average Minimum Temperature	...	...	...	...	40° F

The year's weather was extremely variable and like the rest of the British Isles rainfall was above average. The first five months were cold and the summer was void of very warm days.

No serious illnesses could be traceable to the variable weather of the year.

OCCUPATIONS. The reports of the past three years in respect of the occupations of the town can be repeated, the gradual change of the occupations from that solely in connection with the Health and Holiday Resort to that of other occupations still continues and a good number of the population is now directly engaged in the Nationalized Public Utility Services, Public Administration and Distributive trades, these services covering a large surrounding rural area which is gradually extending. The changes taking place leads one to consider that in a very few years to come, any possible additional centralised national undertakings such as public markets, slaughter houses, transport and public services should be centred in the town which is proving so adequate for those already centred on it and which provides the personnel of those undertakings with all possible facilities not found elsewhere in the County or adjoining Counties.

The number of retired persons coming to reside in the town is gradually increasing and each passing year sees the immigration of these people to the quiet and healthy conditions of the resort.

The holiday season of 1951 was moderate and the number of visitors to the town shewed a decrease on previous years. There was an increase in the number of Coach Tours entering the town of both those visiting for a single day and those remaining overnight.

Foreign tourists were also noticeable and the efforts of certain hotels in this direction must prove eventually to be great benefit to the trade of the town.

Housing conditions again shewed slight improvement and notwithstanding greatly increased costs it was noticeable that owner occupiers and owners were making every effort to maintain houses and flats in good habitable condition.

TABLE 1.

VITAL STATISTICS OF THE DISTRICT DURING 1951.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
Live Births (Legitimate	44	25	19
(Illegitimate	3	-	3
Still Births	Nil	Nil	Nil
	47	25	22

Birth Rate per 1000 of the Estimated Population:-

Live Births	...	...	... 13.9
Still Births	...	...	... Nil

DEATHS.

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female</u>
No. of Deaths	42	23	19

The death rate per 1000 of the estimated resident population is:- 12 5

Death Rate 1950	-	10.31
1949	-	13.38
1948	-	11.5
1947	-	12.6

Deaths from Puerperal causes .....	Nil
Death rate from Puerperal causes .....	Nil
Death rate of infants under one year of age:-	
Infant deaths under one year.....	Nil
All infants per 1000 live births .....	Nil
Legitimate infants per 1000 legitimate births.....	Nil
Illegitimate infants per 1000 illegitimate live births.....	Nil
Death from child birth.....	7
Death from malignant diseases .....	1
Deaths from measles .....	Nil
Death from Whooping Cough (all ages).....	1
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under 2 years of age).....	1

There was no unusual excessive mortality during the year neither was there any sickness or invalidity of note.



TABLE 2  
STATISTICS OF CAUSES OF DEATH.

Causes of Death	M.	F.
All Causes	23	19
1. Tuberculosis Respiratory	Nil	Nil
2. Tuberculosis other	1	Nil
3. Syphilitic disease	Nil	Nil
4. Diphtheria	Nil	Nil
5. Whooping Cough	Nil	Nil
6. Acute Poliomyelitis	Nil	Nil
7. Measles	1	Nil
8. Other infective and parasitic diseases	Nil	Nil
9. (i) Malignant Neoplasm - Stomach	1	1
(ii) " " - Lung bronchus	1	Nil
(iii) " " - breast	Nil	2
(iv) " " - uterus	Nil	Nil
(v) Other Malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	Nil
(vi) Leukaemia Aleukaemia	Nil	Nil
10. Vascular Lesions of nervous system	1	1
11. Diabetes	Nil	1
12. Coronary disease, angina	4	2
13. Hypertension with heart disease	Nil	Nil
14. Other heart disease	4	4
15. Other circulatory disease	Nil	Nil
16. Influenza	Nil	Nil
17. Pneumonia	Nil	1
18. Bronchitis	1	1
19. Other diseases or respiratory system	Nil	Nil
20. Ulcer of Stomach and duodenum	Nil	Nil
21. Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	Nil	1
22. Nephritis and nephrosis	3	Nil
23. Hyperplasia of prostate	Nil	Nil
24. Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	Nil	Nil
25. Congenital malformations	Nil	Nil
26. Other defined and illdefined diseases	2	5
27. Motor Vehicle Accidents	Nil	Nil
28. All other accidents	Nil	Nil
29. Suicide	2	Nil
30. Homicide and operations of War	Nil	Nil

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISIONS OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

1. Public Officers:-

Medical Officer of Health (Part time)

J. Emrys Jenkins, M.A., B.M., B.Ch.

Sanitary Inspector (Part time)

R.J. Morris, A.R.I.C.S., M.R.S.I., Cert. S.I.

2. LABORATORY FACILITIES.

(a) The examination and analysis of water, sewage effluents and stream contamination are carried out by the Public Analyst of the County Laboratories, Carmarthen. Analyst - H.J. Evans.

(b) The examination of milk and ice-cream samples are carried out at the Public Health Laboratories, Shrewsbury Infirmary.

3. HEALTH SERVICES. The following services are carried out by the Radnorshire County Council under the National Health Service Act, 1946.

- (i) Maternity and Child Welfare.
- (ii) Clinics.
- (iii) Dental care for expectant mothers and nursing mothers and young children together with School Dental Services.
- (iv) Midwives Service, delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Association.
- (v) Health Visiting delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Association.
- (vi) Home Nursing delegated to the Radnorshire County Nursing Association.
- (vii) Vaccination and immunisation of children under five and of school age is carried out by Registered Medical Practitioners of the parents choice or by the County Medical Officer.

The vaccination of adults is carried out by Registered Medical Practitioners.

- (viii) Ambulance Service.

(ix) Prevention of Illness, Care and after care of persons suffering from tuberculosis, mental illness or defectiveness and other types of illness is organised under the aegis of the County Health Committee.

#### SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE AREA.

Water Supply. No difficulties on water supplies occurred throughout the year.

The main source of the supply administered by the Council the source of which is the River Ithon was efficiently maintained and the purification by mechanical filtration and chlorination was satisfactory as shewn by the tabulation of Analysts report tabulated in Table 3.

Chlorination is maintained to give a free chlorine content of between 0.08 and 0.1 p.p.m after 30 minutes contact.

The ph value of the water is maintained at neutral by the injection of soda ash.

The two service reservoirs have been maintained in good condition.

Renewal of short length of water main at Alexandra Road and Terrace was carried out, also new 2 inch main laid in Park Terrace.

Several house service pipes were renewed, this being made necessary by blockage due to corrosion in every case,. This renewal proved satisfactory.

Statistics in respect of the Water Supply are detailed below:-

Estimated Population supplied from public water mains .....	3329
Estimated Population not supplied from public water mains..	20 persons
Number of dwelling houses or flats supplied direct	
into premises .....	997 dwellings
Number of dwelling houses and farms supplied by	
means of stand pipes .....	24 "
Estimated population supplied .....	70 persons
Number of premises (farms) with own piped supplies.....	2
Number of premises (farms) with no piped supply .....	3
Premises supplied from mains and outside Urban District .	11

TABLE 3.

Bacteriological Analysis for the year 1951 carried out by H.J. Evans, Public Analyst, Bank Lane, Carmarthen.

Water taken from domestic taps:-

Date of Sample.	No. of Organisms 48 hours at 22° C.	Coli Present C.Cs 100;50;25;20;10;5;1.	Remarks
14.2.51	98	Nil	Highly Satisfactory
5.4.51	19	Nil	ditto
29.5.51	66	Nil	ditto
31.7.51	77	Nil	ditto
21.8.51	49	Nil	ditto
15.10.51	9	Nil	ditto
7.11.51	55	Nil	ditto

No chemical analysis of the Town Supply was carried out during the year.

TABLE 4.

Water Consumption. (All consumers, including Trades)

Year.	Water Pumped to Service Reservoirs.	Estimated Population Served.	Estimated Consumption per head per day.
1945	77,700,000	Not known	Not known
1946	68,630,000	3,000	62
1947	66,410,000	3,150	57
1948	64,100,000	3,500	50.1
1949	67,490,000	3,438	51
1950	62,010,000	3,586	44.6
1951	67,690,000	3,250 (Census)	48.7

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

Drainage. The drainage of the town is on the partial separate system, a large volume of the road waters and a certain volume of roof and yard waters being drained separately into suitably placed water courses.

No flooding of premises occurred. No defects of any extent took place and minor blockages in subsidiary branch sewers were the only troubles arising.

The sewer system proved adequate and no proposals were under consideration for the construction of relief or other sewers.

Sewerage Disposal. The three sewerage disposal works dealt with the purification of sewage to give effluents of moderate condition.

River pollution was avoided and no loss of fish life was reported.



Remarks.

Rivers and Streams. No action taken in regard to pollution. Examinations were carried out of water courses passing through the town and of known outlets of septic tanks connected to houses outside the Urban District. No pollution of any extent was found.

Public Cleansing. Collection of household and trade refuse proceeded as in other years by the Council's own staff and vehicles. The method of collection remained the same.

Disposal of refuse was continued by incineration during the months of May to October and by tipping at Llanfawr Fields from November to April.

The collection of waste paper was maintained, the tonnage of paper sold being 53 tons 15 cwt. The Authority received a prize in the National Waste Paper Competition.

Scrap iron disposed of was 12 tons 16 cwt.

FOOD.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Milk.

Residential Registered Retailers	- 2
ditto Dairywomen Ungraded Retailers	- 2
Non-Residential Dairywomen Ungraded	- 3
ditto ditto Designated	- 5
Visits to Cowsheds during year	- Nil
Visits to Dairies during year	- 2
Action taken by the Council in respect of unclean milk	- Nil

Samples were forwarded to the Public Health Laboratory, Shrewsbury, the results being as follows:-

Samples for Tuberculosis - Samples Taken - 12

Results - No sample produced tuberculosis.

Samples for Methylene Blue Test. Samples taken - 62

Results - Samples satisfying test - 47. Not satisfying - 15.

Samples of Ice-Cream. Samples taken - 4

Results - Grade 1 - 2; Grade 2 - Nil; Grade 3 - 1; Grade 4 - 1.

Meat Inspection. The centralised slaughtering of cattle, sheep and pigs was continued by the Ministry of Food at the Gordon House Slaughterhouse in the middle of the town.

ANIMALS KILLED, INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED.

	Cattle excluding cows.	Calves	Sheep and lambs	Pigs.
Number killed	179	30	3690	89
Number inspected	140	24	3131	84
All diseases except tuberculosis				
Whole carcasses condemned	5	1	26	2
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	57		277	4
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis.	44%	4%	9.6%	7%
Tuberculosis only:-				
Whole carcasses condemned	4	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	3	-	-	1
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis.	5%	Nil	Nil	1%



Shops. Inspections have been carried out by the Sanitary Inspector of Shops and food preparing places including bakehouses, restaurants and hotel kitchens as shewn in the Summary of Work by the Sanitary Inspector's Department.

Number of Inspections of Shops	-	45
" " " " Bakehouses	-	6
" " " " Food preparation	-	12

Foods surrendered or condemned and destroyed.

Canned Foods including fish	-	312 tins
Tinned Milk	-	99 tins
Tinned Meat	-	122 lb.
Cooked Tinned Ham	-	182 lb.
Bacon	-	40 lb.
Cheese	-	18 lb
Fruit and Vegetables	-	18 lb.

Byelaws for Handling etc. of Food. These byelaws came into force in January, 1951. No enforcement action has been taken under byelaws.

Ice-Cream. Inspections of premises registered for the preparation of ice-cream and for the storage for sale of ice-cream were carried on throughout the year.

Number Registered:-

Preparation of Hot Mix Treatment	- Nil
" " Cold Mix Treatment	- 1
Storage for Sale	- 13

Samples of ice-cream despatched 4. Results included elsewhere.

Adulteration of Foods. The administration of the Acts dealing with the adulteration of food is carried out by the Officers of the Radnorshire County Council and no particulars are available to my Council.

Food Poisoning Outbreaks. No cases of food poisoning occurred during the year.

#### INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

Cases of notifiable infectious disease occurred during the twelve months. No cases were transferred to Isolation Hospitals and the cases arising were isolated at home.

#### NOTIFIABLE DISEASES DURING 1951.

Diseases.	Total cases notified.	Cases admitted to hospital.	Total Deaths.
Small Pox	-	-	-
Scarlet Fever	-	-	-
Diphtheria	-	-	-
Enteric Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Fever	-	-	-
Puerperal Pyreia	-	-	-
Whooping Cough	6	-	-
Pneumonia	1	-	1
Other Diseases notifiable	-	-	-
Acute Poliomyelitis	-	-	-
Measles	37	-	1
Chicken Pox	3	-	-
	47	Nil	2

Inspections carried out in respect of infectious diseases - 2.

Cancer. No action taken.

Blindness. No action taken.

Tuberculosis. The requirements of the Public Health (Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1930, have been carried out.

No action has been taken under the special powers given to local authorities under these Regulations.

No applications were made under Section 172 of the Public Health Act, 1936, for the removal to hospital of persons suffering from tuberculosis of the respiratory tract.

#### TUBERCULOSIS. NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1951.

Age Groups.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.		Respiratory.		Non-Respiratory.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
35	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-
45	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
65 and up	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Totals	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	-

#### Diphtheria Immunisation.

The number of children immunised against diphtheria during the year was - 23 as follows:-

Age Group.	No.	Estimated Child Population
Under 1 year	10	
Age 1 year	13	
Age 2 years	-	241
Age 3 years	-	
Age 4 years	-	
Age 5 to 9 years )	-	
Age 10 to 14 years)	-	475
	23	716

#### HOUSING.

##### 1. Inspection of dwelling houses during the year:-

- |        |                                                                                                                    |     |
|--------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| (a)    | Total number of dwellings inspected for housing defects (under Public Health and Housing Acts)                     | 90  |
| (b)    | Number of inspections made for the purpose                                                                         | 126 |
| 2. (a) | Number of dwelling houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for habitation | Nil |
| (b)    | Number of dwelling houses rendered fit as a result of informal action                                              | Nil |
| (c)    | Number of dwelling houses found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation                      | 3   |

(d) Number of Statutory Notices issued requiring remedy of housing defects	Nil
(e) Number of dwelling houses rendered fit as a result of Statutory Notices	Nil
(f) Number of dwelling houses in respect of which complaints made to Justices	Nil
(g) Result of complaint to Justices	Nil
(h) Statutory Notices outstanding at end of 1949	Nil
(i) Statutory Notices outstanding at end of 1950	Nil

No additional cases of overcrowding were found during the year.

Properties held under requisition for housing of inadequately housed at end of year - 1

Number of new houses erected during the year:-

(a) By Council with State Grant	- Nil
(b) By private persons	- Nil

Number of new houses under construction at end of year:-

(a) By Council with State Grant	- Nil
(b) By private persons	- 4

Number of new dwellings provided during year by conversion of properties into flats:-

(a) By Council	- Nil
(b) By private persons	- 8

#### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

Summary of the work of the Sanitary Inspector's Department.

Total Number of Inspections and Visits made - 417.

#### Nuisances.

No. of visits re. nuisances	10	No. of milk samples for blue test	62
Visits re. works in progress	3	No. of -do- not conforming with blue test	15
Notices issued			
(a) Informal letters	18		
(b) Informal Notices	1	<u>Dairies.</u>	
(c) Statutory Notices	Nil	No. Registered	2
Notices and letters complied with	16	No. of Inspections	2
Outstanding	Nil	<u>Moveable Dwellings.</u>	
Legal Proceedings	Nil	No. Registered	2

#### Housing.

Inspections as per report	126	<u>Bakehouses.</u>	
		No. in use	5
<u>Food Preparing Places.</u>		No. of inspections	6

No. of inspections 12

#### Slaughter Houses etc.

No. of visits (approx)	150	<u>Lodging Houses.</u>	
No. of condemnations	380	No. Registered	Nil

#### Foods.

No. of seizures of unsound food	Nil	<u>Water Supply.</u>	
No. of condemnations	34	No. of samples taken	7
		No. found polluted	Nil
		Houses and flats connected to supply	1022

#### Dairymen.

No. of Registered	2	New houses connected	1
No. of inspections	2	New connections to houses	11

No. of Retailers 12

No. of milk samples for T.B.	12	<u>Infectious Diseases.</u>	
No. of -do- found to produce T.B.	Nil	No. of enquiries	2
No. of enquiries under P.H.A. Regulations re. Contacts	Nil.	No. taken to hospital	Nil
		No. of houses disinfected	1
		No. of houses disinfected re. fleas, lice etc.	Nil.



House Drainage.

No. laid or relaid	13
No. cleansed	18

Water Closets etc.

No. improved or repaired	2
No. of bucket closets in district	8
No. of cesspools in district	1
No. of earth closets in district	2

---

Camping Sites.

1. Number of sites in area for camping purposes under  
canvas during 1951.....1
2. Number of Caravan Camping sites.....3
3. Number of Camping sites requiring to be licenced in  
accordance with Public Health Act.....Nil
4. Number of Caravan Camping Sites licenced under  
Public Health Act..... 1
5. Estimated maximum number of Campers in the area at  
one time during 1951..... 30.

Smoke Abatement. Action was taken in one case in respect of nuisance from smoke. Arrangements were made for the use of better quality coal in the boiler.

Swimming Baths and Pools. There is one privately owned Swimming Pool in the town and it was in general use during the summer period.

Visits of inspection made	-	20
Tests for chlorination	-	20

It was found that the purification and filtration plant was efficiently worked and purification was satisfactory with possible over chlorination.

Rodent Control Work.

Premises.

Number of inspections made	-	941
Premises found infested	-	74
Treatments carried out	-	74
Dead rats picked up	-	118

Sewer Treatments. Maintenance treatment of Sewers was carried out in November, 1951.

52 manholes were baited.

7 manholes shewed presence of rats.

7 manholes shewed poison bait takes.